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TITLE: Compounds and methods for modulating junctional adhesion molecule-mediated functions

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INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A cell adhesion modulating agent that:(a) comprises at least five consecutive amino acid residues of a JAM CAR sequence having the formula:

Ser-Phe-Thr-Ile-Asp-Pro-Lys-Ser-Gly (SEQ ID NO:1);

and

(b) consists of no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues linked by peptide bonds.

2. A modulating agent according to claim 1, wherein the agent comprises an N-terminal acetyl group.

3. A modulating agent according to claim 1, linked to a drug.

4. A modulating agent according to claim 1, linked to a detectable marker.

5. A modulating agent according to claim 1, linked to a targeting agent.

6. A modulating agent according to claim 1, linked to a support material.

7. A modulating agent according to claim 6, wherein the support material is a polymeric matrix.

8. A modulating agent according to claim 6, wherein the support material is selected from the group consisting of plastic dishes, plastic tubes, sutures, membranes, ultra thin films, bioreactors and microparticles.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a cell adhesion modulating agent according to claim 1, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. A composition according to claim 9, further comprising a drug.
11. A composition according to claim 9, wherein the cell adhesion modulating agent is present within a sustained-release formulation.
12. A modulating agent according to claim 1, wherein the agent comprises a linear peptide having the sequence SFTIDPKSG (SEQ ID NO:1).
13. A cell adhesion modulating agent that:
 - (a) comprises at least seven consecutive amino acid residues of a JAM CAR sequence having the formula:
Ser-Phe-Thr-Ile-Asp-Pro-Lys-Ser-Gly (SEQ ID NO:1);
and
 - (b) consists of no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues linked by peptide bonds.
14. A cell adhesion modulating agent that:
 - (a) comprises at least eight consecutive amino acid residues of a JAM CAR sequence having the formula:
Ser-Phe-Thr-Ile-Asp-Pro-Lys-Ser-Gly (SEQ ID NO:1);
and
 - (b) consists of no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues linked by peptide bonds.